

ARMY Declass/Release Instructions On File

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TOP SECRET CONTROL
A. C. OF S., G-2, DA

24 SEP 1951

G2-PRES

MEMORANDUM FOR: CHAIRMAN, INTELLIGENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**SUBJECT: Likelihood of the U.S.S.R. Deliberately Initiating War
During 1952**

1. The Intelligence Advisory Committee has variously estimated the likelihood of war, indicating that in the belief that the Soviet objective cannot be obtained without the involvement in a general war against the Western Powers, the Soviet rulers may decide deliberately to provoke such a war at a moment when, in their opinion, the strength of the Soviet Union vis-a-vis the Western Powers is at its maximum. It has been estimated that such a period exists now and will extend from the present through 1954, with its peak at about half-way, i.e., 1952.

2. We are approaching this critical period, and recent events unfavorable to the U.S.S.R. may confront its leaders with the necessity of reevaluating the Soviet position.

3. It is therefore requested that the IAC prepare an estimate of the "Likelihood of the U.S.S.R. Deliberately Initiating War During 1952." The scope of such an estimate should include, but not be limited to, the factors shown in the attached draft, "Proposed Terms of Reference," (Tab "A").

(sgd.) **A. R. BOLLING**

1 Incl
Proposed Terms of
Reference - Tab "A"

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